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June 2, 1999

Dr. Jane E. Henney
Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 14-71
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Henney,

I would like the FDA to ban the use of antibiotics as feed additives to fatten livestock. As the mother of young children, and the daughter of aging parents, I am very concerned about the ever-increasing resistance of bacterial diseases to antibiotics. Clearly the unnecessary use of antibiotics by the livestock industry contributes to this increase, and has become a public health issue.

If the livestock industry maintains that antibiotics as feed additives are necessary, then I would have to question its method of raising livestock. Alternative methods that do not subject livestock to overcrowded conditions is obviously one step that can be taken to reduce the need for antibiotics.

I feel the wisdom of the World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Public Health Association, as well as other public health organizations that have called for a ban on using antibiotics to fatten livestock, should be respected. The Europeans have had the good sense to ban the use of antibiotics as a feed additive; now it is time for us to follow suit. I want the same rights to good health for my children as my European counterparts.

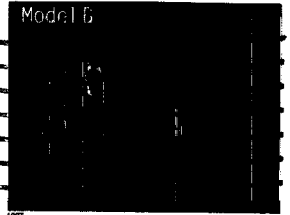
Sincerely,


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